

# EASY STEPS TO PLANT YOUR TREE

**TIMING.** Plant at the right time of year. Not when you have extreme weather.

**TYPE.** Choose the right type of tree for your area. A native tree is the best as it should grow well and support local wildlife. However, any tree that you see doing well in your area should work.



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**DIG** a hole that is at least twice the width of the existing root ball of the tree and deep enough that the top of the tree roots are level with the soil (not too deep, not too shallow).

**SOAK** the tree while you work to ensure the root ball is soaked through, as a dry root ball could reject water from the surrounding soil.



**IMPROVE** your soil to help the plant survive in the long-term. Mix compost and fertiliser with the soil from the area that you will be planting into.



**REMOVE** the plant from its pot and inspect the roots. If the plant is pot bound (roots all bunched up in a circle at the bottom) gently pull them apart so they can grow into the soil and not stay in the same pattern.



**PLANT** the tree in the hole and put the soil/compost mixture around it to cover the roots. Half way through filling the hole, **SOAK** it to get rid of air pockets then continue filling. Make sure the soil around the plant is firm, leaving a slight well at the top so that when it rains the water gets caught directly above the roots. This trick makes the most of any rain that comes.



**WATER** the tree in, giving a good soak. This ensures that the soil settles around the plant, and the roots get good contact with the soil. Watering frequently at first, then regularly until the tree has established (up to 2 years).



**COVER** with mulch but leave a 2 inch / 5cm gap next to the tree trunk.

#WucwoPlantingHope